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PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 09/576,166  
 Applicant : Paul G. RINGHOF et al.  
 Filed : May 22, 2000  
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 Examiner : Dustin NGUYEN  
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MS-RCE  
 Commissioner for Patents  
 P.O. Box 1450  
 Alexandria VA 22313-1450  
 Attention: Examiner Dustin NGUYEN

RESPONSE WITH AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Sir:

The following amendment is being submitted in response to the Office Action dated November 28, 2003, the due date for response being March 1, 2004, the next business day after February 29, 2004, please enter and consider the following amendment and remarks as follows:

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date March 29, 2004 By: Karen Taragowski Signature: Karen Taragowski  
Applicant, Assignee, or Representative

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